



**THE VOLUNTARY  
SECTOR**

**IN**

**NEWCASTLE UPON  
TYNE**

**2005**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This study investigated the state of the voluntary sector in Newcastle in 2005 in terms of certain key variables.

The study was conceived as methodically very simple, in order to be achievable within NCVS resources.

It looked at key variables in a number of areas, namely:

- Staffing, volunteers, committee members and area of operation.
- Financial information such as range and size, annual income, sources of income, and relation to Local Authority grant aid.

It also examined Quality Accreditation and Performance Improvement.

Questionnaires were sent to all 444 NCVS members, and 123 were returned. The sample who replied appear to be reasonably representative of the whole membership.

Comparison was made of many variables with the findings of the similar study in 2001.

### **Key Findings**

- 47% of the sample organisations work solely in Newcastle, 53% on a wider basis.
- 75% employ staff, with 69% of these having 10 or less staff.
- The sample employs 1940 people, which adjusted for the whole of NCVS membership, would give a staff figure of about 7003.
- 2834 volunteers are involved, which adjusted for the membership would give a figure of about 11,038.
- 1057 people volunteer as committee members, which adjusted for the membership would give a figure of about 3911.
- The sample has a combined annual income of over £41 million, which adjusted to the whole membership would give a figure of £179 million.

- 51% of the groups working only in Newcastle receive grant aid.
- Every pound in grant aid to organisations working only within Newcastle brings in a further £14. For organisations with a wider geographical remit, every pound of grant aid brings in £18.
- Voluntary organisations' annual income ranges from £53 to £8,339,982, but 49% are in the range of £20,000 to £250,000.
- By far the most important source of income overall is what organisations earn.
- Important sources of income other than grant aid in terms of **number of organisations that use them** are Earnings, Fundraising, National Government, Charitable Trusts, Interest and the Big Lottery.
- Important sources of income other than grant aid in terms of **total amount** are Earnings, Newcastle LA Contracts, National Government, Health Bodies, New Deal and Charitable Trusts.
- There is considerable consistency between the figures in 2001 and in this study. The biggest changes are in some sources of funding.
- 34% of the sample have, or are working towards, some kind of Quality Accreditation.
- 57% of the sample is interested in the idea of Performance Improvement, and 36% of those would be prepared to pay something for it.

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